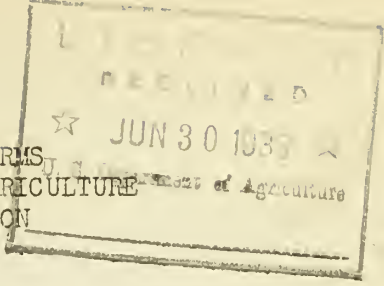


## **Historic, archived document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



1.95  
F11



Facts about ALLENDALE FARMS  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

**LOCATION:** In Allendale County in the coastal plain area of southwestern South Carolina about 5 miles west of Allendale, project headquarters. The project area is served by main lines of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad, the Southern Railway and the Charleston and Western Carolina Railroad.

**HISTORY:** Land for the project was first purchased in 1938 by the Farm Security Administration; final approval was given December 29, 1938.

**PURPOSE:** This agricultural community was developed to give the large number of Negroes in this area who were tenants, sharecroppers and laborers on cotton plantations an opportunity to become farm-owners. The families on the project will receive adequate housing, limited financial aid and will follow careful farm and home management plans in order to improve their standard of living. After the rental leases expire, project farmers, who are in a position to do so, will buy their farms from the Government with payments spread out over long-term periods.

**ECONOMIC PLAN OF OPERATION:** When the project is completed, there will be 120 farm units; at present, only 61 are completed although 99 families are in occupancy. The families who have not yet obtained their farms are living in old dwellings on the land pending the completion of the new houses. They have leased their land, however, and are under the direction of the project manager.

Farm units range from 60 to 118 acres, depending on the number of tillable acres. Each farm unit includes a 5-room frame house, barn, smokehouse, poultry house and sanitary privy. Contracts for the construction of the remaining 59 units have been let out to private contractors.

Farmers on the project carry out the farm and home plans which they work out with the project manager. These farm and home management plans insure homesteaders a balanced and diversified farming system, as well as an economic "live-at-home" program. Families raise their own food crops and keep cows and chickens. Although none of the families canned their own food previous to acceptance on the project, they canned an average of 456 quarts of fruits and vegetables per family their first year on the project. Cash income is received from cotton, peanuts, watermelons, asparagus and hogs.

The 10,745 acres which comprise the project are not in a solid block, but the various tracts are grouped closely together, making possible community activities. Cooperative facilities



for purchasing and marketing are to be developed as the need arises.

Two combination community and school buildings are being built to serve the homesteaders and families in the adjacent area. County authorities are cooperating in this undertaking.

Allendale Farms has a full-time nurse and health facilities are to be provided when the school buildings are completed.

HOMESTEADERS:

Selection of Negro tenant families was made in Allendale and adjacent counties, with families living on the property at time of purchase given preference.

ooOoo

June 1, 1939.

